

IN THE BEGINNING



Published Quarterly By
Woodson County Historical Society
Yates Center, Kansas
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January, 1981

Lester A. Harding, Editor

Editor's Notes: Again we are going to mark a red cross in this box, to remind you that your subscription has expired or will soon. We seem to have fairly good results with this system, although a few seem to ignore it.

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Seems like in most of the issues in this quarterly that there is usually some mistakes. We would like to make some corrections. In the story of the Yates Center officials we wrote that Robert Morton had been Mayor for the past 18 years. It should have been for the past 21 years. The article was first written in 1978.

Another correction is that in the Dumond story, Abram Darst was a brother of Adelene Darst Dumond instead of being her father.

The cover picture was taken at the Crandall Ranch, with the large steer Prohibition, and a large group of friends and neighbors. Story on page 16.

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In compiling the story of the Fuqua family just east of Neosho Falls, we forgot to mention that Leslie and Vesta Mentzer had lived on this farm for the past 50 years and still are active there. They raised two children there, Lila and William, better known as Bill. Vesta whose maiden name was Danielson grew up in the Neosho Falls area.

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"In The Beginning" is now being sent to London, England, to Peter D. Palmour, who was here recently visiting with the Kimbell family. Mr. Palmour is a distant relative of the Kimbell's. We spent a pleasant half hour visiting with him. He is compiling a family book of his 'roots' and is spending much time and money doing it. He insisted in also being a patron or donor, so his name appears in the list of patrons. His roots, as does the Kimbell's, go back to the early days or years of England. The time we spent over a cup of coffee was all together too short.

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Woodson County Historical Society

Yates Center, Kansas

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Organized March, 1965

The regular dinner meeting of the Woodson County Historical Society was held at the Woodson House on September 23, 1980. Betty McNett of the Piqua area was the guest speaker. She gave an interesting talk on her experiences as a delegate to the National Democrat Convention in New York City. She states that the security was extremely tight and they had plenty of police protection while they were there. Betty displayed a collection of campaign buttons she had collected. The Kansas Sunflower was much in demand as a souvenir.

Forty one members and seven guests enjoyed the meal and program.

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IN MEMORIAM

Helen Bicknell

81

October, 1980

Mrs. Bicknell was not a native of Woodson County, but took part in different Senior Citizens organizations. She had been a member of the Woodson County Historical Society for about three years, and attended the meetings until her health failed her.

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The November meeting of the Woodson County Historical Society met at The Woodson House with 28 members and three visitors present. Geraldine entertained the group with a variety of songs and readings about Thanksgiving.

The next meeting will be January 27, 1981, and will be the annual meeting, that includes the election of officers.

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Shortly after the Museum was closed for the winter, the fifth grade pupils and their teacher took a tour of the building. There were 23 pupils. This has become an annual occasion for the fifth grade of the Yates Center Elementary School.

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After school on October 20, there were eight Cub Scouts and their leader, Connie Morrison toured the Woodson County Historical Museum.

**Join and Support the
Woodson County Historical Society**

Life Membership \$25.00

Regular \$2.00 Year

THE SIMEON LYNN FAMILY —

It was in the year of 1864, that Simeon Lynn and his wife Marcia (Stephens) Lynn came to Woodson County from Moultrie County, Illinois. They settled on a farm one and a half miles east of Neosho Falls.

Coming with them were their five children, Alex, Margaret Elizabeth, George, Belinda, and Adaline. In December of that year another son was born to them who was James W. and later another daughter was born to them, who was named Belle.



Simeon and wife Marcia Lynn

Marcia Lynn passed away on August 1, 1882 at the age of 52 years. Simeon Lynn passed away, October 4, 1887, at the age of 70 years.

All of the children mentioned above grew to adulthood in the area around Neosho Falls. We will try and tell about some of these families. Simeon Lynn and also some of the older children purchased land adjoining the first 80 acres that Simeon Lynn purchased from Leonard Fuqua that we had told

about in the October issue of "In The Beginning". It was in March, 1864, that Mr. Lynn obtained the west half of the southeast quarter of Sec. 27, Twp. in Range 17. The east half of that quarter that lay along the Woodson-Allen county line was cut up in 5 and 20 acre plots. Later George Lynn obtained a U.S. Patent for this east half. Much of this land between Neosho Falls and Geneva was thickly populated while Kansas was still a Territory and was apart of the New York Indian Reservation, and it was seemingly difficult to get a clear title to some of the land.

In 1886, Simeon and others gave a right-of-way to the C.N.T. & W Railroad.

This was later the Sante Fe Railroad.

Alex Lynn married Mary Jackson. Their children were Albert, Fred, Otis, Bill, Walter, Lee and two girls, Ethel and Ruth.

James W. Lynn was born in the Lynn homestead east of Neosho Falls in 1864. Here he spent his boyhood in that vicinity and in August, 1891, James was married to Miss Lula Stratton. They moved into Neosho Falls where James had a partnership in the hardware business for awhile. He then worked in the J. Bishop General Merchandise Store for years.

It was in Neosho Falls that their three children were born, Clark, Delphine and Elsie E. Lynn.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Lynn were talented musicians. Mr. Lynn on the cornet, and a leader in the band at Neosho Falls. Mrs. Lynn taught piano lessons. Thurlow Lieurance the noted musician from Neosho Falls took his first lessons from her, and took cornet lessons from Mr. Lynn.

The James Lynn family left Neosho Falls in 1923, going to Newton and then to Independence, Kansas. Delphine and Elsie E. Lynn live at Bartlesville, OK.

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Alex Lynn was an early day school teacher of Woodson County. He taught seven terms of school. During 1873-74 Alex Lynn taught two winter terms of six months each at the Dry Creek School No. 12. That district was 3 miles wide and 11 miles long. He received \$40 a month the first term and \$42.50 the second term. During the two winters Mr. Lynn taught at Dry Creek he killed five deer along the creek. Two of these he killed with one shot. He was using a muzzle loading shot gun, using buckshot.

The editor only knew one of these. That was Otis who carried a rural mail route out of Vernon for quite a few years, and at age of 90 is still living in Chanute.

This is only part of the story of a family that took part in the history of Woodson County.

RANDOLPH GOINGS and FAMILY —

During the many years we have been writing about many different families of Woodson County we have written about people of all race, nationality and descriptions, but we believe that the story of the Goings family is the strangest.

Randolph Goings and wife Mary K. were among the first pioneers to settle along the lower part of Turkey Creek, to make a home and stay. But we would like to go back to when Randolph and his first wife were slaves.

Randolph Goings was born near Charlottesville, Virginia in Albermarle County. His father was Luther M. Goings. This was on some 1830 Virginia records. — One female 55 to 100 years old. This was Randolph's mother Rebecca. Mary, who was Randolph's sister was listed as — female, 25. 1 male 5 to 10. This was Randolph. He actually was ten years old as he was born in 1840.

In the 1840 records, Luther must have died as another slave -Jepe Goings was listed, with Rebecca listed as a mulatto. Her age was given the same as in the 1830 record as 55 to 100. She actually was 65 years old at time. The rest of the family were listed as mulatto's including Randolph. Listed with Randolph was Lucy Jane Tate. Also listed were Martha, age 1, and Pamela J., age 3.

Randolph and Lucy Jane were married in 1840, at Charlottesville, VA. Randolph was listed as a farm laborer. The children of Randolph and Lucy Jane Goings besides Pamela, and Martha were Susan and Alfred.

In 1849, Randolph decided to leave and move to Ohio. However, before they could leave the state of Virginia they had to get their "Free papers". These they had to have recorded.

While living in Highland County, Ohio, two more children were born to Randolph and Lucy Jane. They were Mary A. and William D., the latter being born in 1855. Just one year later, in 1856, Randolph decided to come to Kansas.

This was just before the Civil War started and many people from the states of Illinois, Indiana and Ohio were coming to Kansas, especially to the counties that had not been settled very much.

However, Randolph Goings deserted his wife Lucy Jane and six children and headed for Kansas with a white woman whose name was Mary K. She had a daughter, Mary who was about two years. Sometime in 1857, in the state of Illinois, they had to lay over awhile so that Mary K. could give birth to a son Thomas.

They arrived in Woodson County sometime in 1858. While the land along this area was not open to homesteading, many settlers were staking out claims and living on them.

The 160 acres that Randolph decided for his own had Turkey Creek winding around through it, especially the east 80 acres. This claim was staked out in the east half of the northwest quarter of Sec. 33, Twp. 23, R. 15 and the west half of the northeast quarter of the same section. They built a log cabin, evidently on a rocky knoll along the north side of the west 80 acres. This was about half way between the Goings Cemetery and the big bend in Turkey Creek, making the cabin less than a quarter mile from the creek.

Four more children were born to Randolph and Mary K., namely Hustin, Sarah, Mary Etta and Recca. The latter was probably Rebecca for Randolph's mother. Of Recca and Hustin we find no more so evidently they died and were buried in the Goings Cemetery. (The story of the Goings Cemetery was in the issue of Vol. 12, No. 46, of "In The Beginning").

Randolph Goings was the father of 12 children. In the records we have been following the names of several children that disappeared. Perhaps left or died. There does not seem to be any records of children in the early records of Woodson County.

The only children we will follow are Sarah who was born in 1865, and Mary Etta, born in Nov. 16, 1867.

About the first that we heard of Randolph Goings was in the Woodson Co. Commissioners notes at their regular meeting at Neosho Falls, April 5, 1864— petition praying for a review of a road running through the premises of John Smith and R. Goings, of Liberty township, Woodson, Co. The Board granted the review and the following persons were appointed to 'view, alter and amend said road as they deem best; Benj. Miller, J. P. Tucker and Asa Whitney, to meet at the residence of John Smith on Turkey Creek, Sat., April 28, 1864.

Due to happenings in the Civil War that effected this county, this road was not surveyed out at that time. "A second petition was presented to the Board of County Commissioners at their next meeting at Neosho Falls, April 11, 1865, for the road that went through the premises of Smith and Goings." The viewers this time appointed were: David Askren, Thomas Siria and James Baldwin. Wm. B. Stines, deputy surveyor, took the road completely around the premises of Smith and Goings.

The road as first proposed would come 14 miles due west from Neosho Falls. It would have crossed Turkey Creek and crossed the center of Smith's land, and made a road across the north side of Goings land, close to where the Goings cabin was built.

When Recca Goings was 6 or 7 months old she passed away in November, 1870. A 'child's coffin' was made for her by Lafe Saferite at Neosho Falls. When Mary K. died in March, 1872, the same Saferite made 'coffin and box' for \$30.00. The bill for these two coffins was presented at the same time to Probate Judge at Neosho Falls.

Randolph Goings died Jan. 16, 1871. After the death of Mary K. the only heirs here were Sarah, age 6, and Mary Etta, age 4. On records left Sarah is called Sadie and Mary Etta as just Ettie, when Asa Whitney was appointed as their guardian. Whether these girls were kept at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Whitney or not we never learned. The Whitney home was only about a mile due south of the Goings home. About 1876, Mr. Whitney received a notice from Issac Jones, Probate Judge, calling for him to appear before the District Court at Defiance on charges by Sarah Goings of mistreatment not only to the property but of Sarah herself. No more was found concerning this so evidently it was settled out of court.

On July 4, 1874, the personal property of the estate of Mary K. Goings was sold by Asa Whitney, administrator.

Meanwhile Lucy Jane Goings, the first wife of Randolph, living in Ohio and three of his children by Lucy Jane, filed for a division of the real estate of Randolph Goings. Lucy Jane Goings, Pamela J. Essex, Mary A. Downthan, and William D. Goings, Plaintiffs, with Sarah Goings and Etta Goings as defendants. The said Plaintiffs recovered a judgement for the partition of certain real estate.

(Several years before his death Goings had sold two parcels of land, both on the far side of Turkey Creek that was very hard to get to at farming time. One of these areas went to N. L. Chambers and the other to Michael Spillman. This left about 140 acres to sell.)

On April 11, 1878, Abe Smith, Woodson County Sheriff sold the homestead of Randolph Goings to the highest bidder. The 140 acres brought \$2450.

Charles H. Weide of upper Turkey Creek was the highest bidder. Two more transaction of this land occurred very soon. Charles Weide sold to his youngest brother William Weide for the sum of \$5.00. William in turn sold to James Baldwin, who in turn sold to Ernest Stockebrand. It has been in the Stockebrand name ever since.

January 10, 1882 - "Now comes Asa Whitney and files his annual account - Full pay to Sadie and a balance of \$42.77 due to Ettie."

February 14, 1883 - Asa Whitney files his final account of estate of Etta Goings, minor. Asa Whitney is discharged from further attendance of the court as guardian."

Sometime later in 1883, Etta Goings was married to Henry Frederick Halfeker. Etta was sixteen years old. Halfeker was a native of Neinburg, Germany. He had served in the Germany Army, and came to the United States as a stowaway on a ship. We have no record of when he came to Woodson County or anyone by that name. Their first two children were born at Washington, Kansas. The third son Berthold was born June 22, 1889. He claimed he was born at Yates Center, but his Army records give his birthplace as Arkansas City, KS, as were his two younger sisters Emily and Thelma. The two oldest were George C. and Anne Belle. Henry and Etta Halfeker lived at Arkansas City from 1889 until 1908, when they moved to Manhattan, where Henry died in 1938. Etta Goings Halfeker died at Junction City, Kansas in 1956.

Most of this information came from Mrs. Ron Paulson, of Hastings, Nebraska. Her father was Bertholdt Halfeker and her grandmother Etta Goings Halfeker.

Where Sarah or Sadie and sister Etta lived during the time there were under the guardianship of Asa Whitney we do not know, but from bills presented they must have lived nearby for awhile. The name of Sarah disappeared from the bills before the final one for Etta.

While Etta the youngest was married in 1883, Sarah was not married until eight years later. Sarah Goings was married to Edgbert Otis Hollenbeck, Sept. 10, 1891. They were the parents of four children. Their oldest son Otis R. was born in Cass Co., Neb. The others, Leonard R., Edna Hazel and Ina E. were born around Oakley, Kansas.

When the children were of school age, Sarah and husband moved to Alma, Kansas.

The Editor of "In The Beginning" recently made a trip to the Goings Cemetery, or what is left of it to try and find or at least look for any trace of the Goings family. However, no stones whether native rock or other have any name to resemble Goings. There are around fifty graves been dug in this cemetery, with over half of them never marked. Most of these were marked with a small limestone set on edge. In the northeast corner of the little cemetery are several graves with just these limestone markers. This is just a short distance from the Goings farmstead.

It is believed that Randolph, his wife Mary K., his mother Rebecca and children, Recca, Hustin, and Thomas, are all buried here, but the people who gave the ground and had the little cemetery named for them lie in unknown and unmarked graves.

Sale Bill

of Personal Property, belonging to the Estate of Wm. H. Cropper
 deceased, in three separate sales, as sold by Adm'r. Bunting Administrators, on the
 day of Aug 1874

ARTICLES SOLD.	APPRAISED VALUE.	SOLD FOR.	BOUGHT BY.	PAID BY.
One black cow	5.00	4.75	Wm. H. Cropper	Cash
One black cow	3.00	3.00	J. S. Clark	notes
One yearling old Steer	17.50	18.00	Asa W. Whitney	Cash
" "	17.00	19.00	" "	Cash
Black yearling Steer	4.00	6.35	Augustine	notes
" "	4.00	5.00	Jas. B. Bled	notes
White pig	2.00	3.25	David. Ashford	notes
" "	2.00	3.00	J. S. Clark	notes
One about 50 bushels	10.00	13.00	Jas. B. Bled	notes
One (pig)	5.00	5.00	Howard Woodcut	notes
One. 2 Bibles & Sch. Bk.	2.00	2.30	Sheet & Brewer	Cash
Cooking Stove & Pipe	18.00	16.25	J. S. Clark. J. S. Clark	Notes

B Lamps	2.10	Switzer & Spillman
Side Mast: 52 lbs. @ 60	6.50	John Hayes
83 pounds flour @ 15	1.50	Orin Randall
One Chair	1.00	Asa Whitney
Small table	0.25	Mrs. J. Spillman
Chairs	1.95	Sam. Miller
Pan. & dishes	0.45	Mrs. M. Spillman
One Cup	0.25	Butcher
One saddle	4.25	Geo. Willie
One edge apron & red wire	0.50	Rough
Side saddle & bridle	6.50	H. Holcomb
One Lot. & Brassboard	0.80	Mrs. Mc. Lee
10 Chickens 20 Cts. each	2.00	John Hayes
Roasting	0.25	Butcher
Chair	0.35	Asa Whitney
Chair	0.25	Butcher
Minions wheel	1.00	H. Switzer
Box & Barrel	2.50	A. Whitney
Scythe & strake	0.25	William Monk
Pr. Shoes	1.25	Orin Roback
Rope	0.25	Brewer
1/2 Scales	0.15	E. Tibbins
Bridle	0.75	J. Roback

ATTEST,

Henry R. Baldwin

Filed July 4, 1874

Clerk of Sale.

ANNUAL REPORT OF TORONTO HIGH SCHOOL —

Dist. Jt.#3. - Annual report of the Toronto, Kansas High School for the year ending June 30, 1933. L. G. Templeton, Supt.

Total high school enrollment 91. Teachers were: M.E. Chessman, \$1296; Lucile Hanson, \$1134; Ruby Nelson, \$1053; Grace Williams, \$1053; Cleo Price, \$1215. The Supt. taught four classes a day and his salary was \$1980.

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High school pupils attending during this period were: Clyde Adams, Walter Burkle, Dale Cogan, Frank Ernest, Elmer Frakes, Wilbur Gordy, Leah Hartman, Lowell Metsher, Louise Miller, Eva Fern Ogilvie, Lois Pendlay, Elizabeth Sample, Marcus Shaw, Donald Skinner, Joe States, Gerald Swilley, Kenneth Thompson.

Lee Adams, Hyla Adkins, Opal Bornhouser, Helen Chilcott, Anthony Cooper, Roy Guyll, Wayne Hartman, Glen Hase, Vernon Henson, Flo Hollister, Fred Jones, Margaret Kirby, Vesta McCain, Floyd Moore, Marie McJunkin, Maxine Morgan, William Paske, Barbara Petty, Dollie Pratt, George Popkiss, Keith Proctor, Lyle Schaaf, Leon Sowder, Adam Stock, Colus Williams, George Williamson, Doris Wootton, Pearl Wootton.

Fred Armstrong, Inez Bedigrew, Mabelle Black, Hilda Burt, Frances Carlisle, Chrystal Cogan, Marion Gleason, Olive Pearl Hare, Elizabeth Ferguson, George Henson, Glen Pendlay, Ethel Petty, June Reader, Raymond Rogers, Harry Sprague, Paul States, Cecil Taylor, Dorothy Town, Lila Woodside, Harold Webb.

Leonard Dawson, Carolyn Hartman, Lois Hartman, Gerald Henson, Alfred Ferguson, Beatrice Hubbard, Woodrow Jamison, Albert Mann, Boyd Moon, Newell Osborne, Florence Paske, Rex Petty, Norman Scott, Wanda Shaw, Leon Thompson, Helen Webb, Leon Wilhite, Edward Bates, Lillian Outon, Floyd Henley, Maxine Swilley, Scott Brown, Virgil Mitchell, Floyd Burkdoll, Waneta Hamilton.

For quite a few years the Toronto High School had a large attendance. Several years ago as the smaller schools began to close, a north and south line was drawn through the Toronto area, with the student on the west of that line going to the Eureka High School and the students on the east side going to the Yates Center High School, with school bus transportation.

THE PETER GRISIER FAMILY —

Peter Grisier was born in Bretigney, France, Feb. 26, 1837. His father Jean George Grieiser and mother Catherine Vernier were also born in France. In the spring of 1851, the family came to America and settled in the wilderness six miles east of Bryan, Ohio. Coming to America with them were their six children, Jaques, Peter, Louis, Margaret, Catherine and Louisa.

It was in Highland County, Ohio, that Peter Grisier met Anna Chapman Strode. Anna had been married to John Strode who was believed to have been killed in the Civil War.

Peter Grisier and Anna Chapman Strode were married in Highland County, Ohio, on February 28, 1956. Their three oldest children were born in Ohio. Melvie, George and Elizabeth.

The Peter Grisier family first came to Kansas around 1871, living near Lawrence. Two different times they moved back to Ohio, because of homesickness. Then to Missouri for a short time. Here their son Fred Ernest was born.

In 1882, the Grisier family moved to Woodson County. Purchasing a farm in the New York Valley vicinity about 8½ miles southeast of Yates Center.

Shortly after arriving here Anna Grisier and a close neighbor, Mrs. D. T. Shotts decided that a Sunday School should be organized in the area. In 1882 a Sunday School was organized. In 1884 the New York Church of God was organized. The Sunday School and Church was held in the New York Valley schoolhouse until 1895, when a church building was built on the boundary line on land donated by the D. T. Shotts and Peter Grisier Families. This church was destroyed by a tornado in February, 1918. The church was rebuilt and services have been held there continuously since then. After the rural schools were discontinued the New York Valley schoolhouse was moved and attached to the church.

Anna Grisier died September 24, 1885. Her youngest son Harry was about a year old at that time. Melvie, the oldest daughter, was about 17 years old took over the raising of the family until she was married to Charles Heistand in 1890.

In 1892, Peter Grisier was married to Catherine Swiler. They continued to live on the farm until Peter's death, June 3, 1911. Catherine moved into Yates Center where she made her home until her death on January 4, 1916. Anna, Peter and Catherine are all buried at the Kalida Cemetery, a mile south and about three fourth mile east of Yates Center.

In the mention of Anna Grisier helping organize the New York Valley Church, several of her descendents are still active in this church.



This is the only picture known of Peter and Anna Grisier. When taking in down to make a reproduction it was discovered that it was not a photograph, but a large pencil or charcoal sketching. Melvie Grisier Heistand had kept it for many years.

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Fred Grisier continued to live on the farm after Catherine Grisier passed away. On April 15, 1914, Fred was married to Miss Emma Pringle, and they continued to live on the farm until their deaths. They had celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in April, 1964.

Fred and Emma Grisier were the parents of three children, Mary Elizabeth, Robert E., Gladys Irene, who died when about a year old, and Esther Margaret.

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Robert E. Grisier and Alice Umholtz were married April 4, 1948. They established their home across the road from the home of his parents. After the death of Fred and Emma Grisier, Robert and family maintained both homes. When Joe Grisier married Karen Brazil in March, 1975, they moved into the original Grisier farmstead. Joe and Karen became the parents of a son, Christopher Robert, born December 27, 1977, and the fifth generation was living on the farm until the house was destroyed by fire on Jan. 19, 1978. Joe, Karen and baby all got

out safely, but the house and entire contents were burned to the ground. No house has been built to replace it.

Fred E. Grisier was born near Hamilton, Caldwell County, MO and was just a year old when the Peter Grisier family moved here in 1882. Fred lived on the same farm for 89 years. He and his family had built the fine brick house that was destroyed by fire in January, 1978.

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The children of Robert E. and Alice Grisier are, Richard Ray, Joe Robert, George Roy, Rodney Rex and Marcia Ruth.

Mary Elizabeth married Ernest Mason Joerg, Dec. 31, 1938. Their children are Karen Patricia, Philip Mason, Regina Elizabeth and Cynthia Ann.

Gladys Irene died as an infant.

Esther Margaret married Charles F. Lewis. Their children are, James Wallace, John Lee who died as an infant; Kathryn Ann and Donna Jean.

* * * * *

Melvie Louise, the oldest of this family was born at Danville, Ohio, Sept. 1, 1868. On November 19, 1890, she was married to Charles M. Hiestand. Their children were: Florence E., Frances E., Earl M., Gretta L., Chrystal Olive and Annie Lucile.

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George C. Grisier married Mattie Hiestand. They had a son that was still born. The mother, Mattie died in childbirth. George C. was later married to Maude Berkstresser.

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Elizabeth Mable married Edward F. Herder. Their children were: Josie Ann, Lester Roy, Ethel Melvie, and Blanche Maude.

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Albert Harry Grisier married Lula Hill. They moved to Colorado, and never lived here.

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Due to lack of space we cannot tell about all of the different families, who made up a great lot of the history of the New York Valley community, the church, school, and all other community affairs.

Besides the two families of the Fred Grisier family who still live in that locality there are at least three descendents of Peter Grisier living in Yates Center. Florence E. Hiestand, who married Ora Hamlin.

Mildred B. Herder, who married Earl M. Hiestand, and Anna Lucile Hiestand who married Clyde Burnett, after his death in 1970, she married Floyd M. Rogers.



This picture of the Grisier Family was taken around 1890, several years after the death of the mother, Anna.

Pictured here are, in the back - George Grisier and sister Elizabeth. In the front row are, Albert Harry, Peter Grisier and daughter Melvie, and Fred E. Grisier.

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Most of the information for the article came from a booklet titled - "Descendants of Peter Grisier and Anna Chapman Strode - March, 1978."

This history of the Grisier and related families was compiled by Mary Grisier Joerg.

TWO LARGE STEERS RAISED AT CRANDALL RANCH —

During the years that Crandall and Baldwin were handling over a thousand cattle each year and fattening several hundred, Warren Crandall, Sr. fattened out two large steers.

The first of these was started on full feed around 1880. When the steer was around seven years old and had reached 4,000 pounds. (One article we read said the weight was 3,250 pounds.)

We believe that this steer was first shipped to Chicago.

The name of this steer was Bucephalous, and he was sold to the Cole Bros. Show and was exhibited throughout the country for two or three years, and at that time was advertised by them as the largest animal of the kind in the world.

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In a letter to the editor, from Orrin C. Rose several years ago he added this note.

"Do you recall the Crandall big steer? When I was 16 or 18 years of age and hauled ear corn to Crandall's, Mr. Warren Crandall (the elder of the two Warren's that I knew) — a mighty fine gentleman — had a big steer. I think that he had a larger one in later years. Mr. Crandall would come by where I was shoveling corn and ask if I had seen the big steer lately? He seemed to be quite proud of that steer. Perhaps he was more interested in me as a boy, and thought I was working too hard and a rest was needed, for he would insist on a stop. If the steer was standing near he would take four wooden water buckets fill them with water and place them across the steer's hips. The buckets of water would set there without spilling a drop.

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The second and the largest of these two steers was bought when a year old from Mr. (Levi) Steele, living near the Pleasant View Church, six miles north of Yates Center. He was a short horn Devan, and was given the name of Prohibition. Seven years later after he had been fattened all this time the steer was sent to Chicago. Half of a railroad car was used for him. This area was banked all the way around with sacks of bran and oil meal, only leaving enough space for Warren Crandall, Jr. Balance of car was loaded with fat cattle from Chicago Inter-Ocean.

There were 373 people at the Crandall Station, Coffey County to see the large steer loaded and on his way.



Prohibition was a yearly when Mr. Crandall purchased him, so at the time he was shipped he was 8 years old and was said to weigh 5,000 pounds, and was 19 hands high (6 ft. 3 inches) and was valued at \$1.00 a pound. Before the big steer was sold Mr. Crandall challenged the world to beat him in style, weight, and color, and offered \$1,000 for his equal. He was a deep red and handsome animal. He was sold in Chicago in 1893 and was taken to Philadelphia and for several years was kept in one of the city parks. The day after he arrived there the Philadelphia Ledger published his weight, which was said then to be 4,500 pounds.

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This picture of Ollie Crandall was taken around 1900.
THE OLLIE CRANDALL RANCH —

Ollie F. Crandall was the oldest of the Warren Crandall children, having been born on the Crandall homestead, January 3, 1863. (In the October issue of "In The Beginning" we mentioned that Warren Jr., was born in 1863. This should have read 1866.)

Here along the bank of Turkey Creek and the surrounding prairies the early years of her life was spent. Her first schooling was at the small building known then as the Baldwin School Dist. No. 50. This schoolhouse was a mile west and

about a mile and quarter south from the Crandall ranch house. Later Ollie attended Kansas University and Baker University at Baldwin.

Along in 1894, after the railroad was built across southern Coffey County from LeRoy to Gridley, the Crandall station was established about a mile north of the ranch headquarters. Here in that year Ollie Crandall purchased the store and operated it for the next eleven years. She was known as a shrewd but fair in all of her business dealings. In back of the main store building were other buildings that she would use in her dealing and trading merchandise for grain, poultry and livestock.

(From our home north of Burt where this writer was born the Crandall Station was closer than Yates Center by a couple of miles. We have heard our father tell of going with the team and wagon or springwagon to Crandall to trade at Ollie Crandall's store. He told buying a walking plow there for \$25.

Ollie sold out the store to stay at home and take care of her aged parents. Around 1902 Ollie began to get land in her home and build up a ranch of her own. Obtaining the east half of Sec. 22, Twp. 23, R. 15, she built a large ranch house. This is the two story house that overlooks the Turkey Creek Valley, on the west side of the U.S.-75, less than a mile south of the Woodson-Coffey county line, just over ten miles north of Yates Center.

There was an old house on this place as Ollie purchased it, that was used for several years as the ranch house. There was quite alot of good timber along Turkey Creek, and the ranch hands were kept busy in the winter sawing down trees that were sawed into the native lumber that was required to build the large house.

Several hired hands were kept at the Ollie Crandall Ranch. And for some of these men with families tenant houses were built. One of these was built close by the ranch house, two to the north, (one of these still stands. There was two of these houses along the east side of the road (now US-75).

When the present large two-story house was finished which was evidently in September, 1915, the first neighborhood event to be held was a chivari. Ollie Crandall was married to Giles H. Lamb on September 23, 1915.

G.H. Lamb was a prominent lawyer in Yates Center and was an ex-senator from this area.

"TINKER" McDONALD —

In an obscure part of the Little Sandy Cemetery, along the Wilson side of the Woodson-Wilson county line about thirteen miles southwest of Yates Center, and about two miles from where the old Middletown store used to be are the graves of three people. On one of the stones is the inscription - L. K. McDonald, born 1854, died Feb. 22, 1912. On another reads, Rhoda L., wife of L. K. McDonald, born May 20, 1858 - Died Jan. 1, 1888. Also listed is —An infant son of Mr. and Mrs. L. K. McDonald, died 1883.

* * * * *

Sometime around 1872, a young man of about 19 years of age drifted into the country along lower Turkey Creek. How he came we do not know nor do we know where from, but presume by horseback. Whether he had worked as a cowboy or not but again we presume that had as he soon began that kind of work here. He was a dark swarthy complexion fellow. Some thought that he was part Negro, but his nationality was Portuguese. He started working for Baldwin and Crandall who were feeding several hundred head of cattle. In the grazing season and always with these cattle on the prairie towards the west part of Woodson County was "Tinker" McDonald, living in his moveable shack as the cattle grazed on mostly free range in the later 1870's and early '80's.

Richard, better known as Dick Trueblood, a long-time editor of the Yates Center News, and who spent his boyhood in the vicinity around the Baldwin and Crandall Ranches occasionally would in his editorials mention "Tinker". He mentioned that beneath that dark skin, no whiter man ever lived.

"Tinker" McDonald died at the home of his son, G. Oscar McDonald in south Liberty township, Woodson Co., Feb. 22, 1912, at the age of 59 years. For more than 40 years he had been a resident of Coffey and Woodson counties. Mostly working at the Crandall and Baldwin ranches. "Tinker" also had two grandsons, Lee and Otto, who like their father and grandfather worked on these two ranches along Turkey Creek.

The moveable shack we mentioned above was known as the herd house and was named the "Prairie Queen", this was a large shack, built on four wheels in which the herdsman, which most always included "Tinker" lived the entire summer. The Prairie Queen was pulled by a yoke of oxen, Andy and Ben, that belonged to Crandall. The Prairie Queen was moved to many locations in the northwest part of Woodson County, as the cattle were bunched and "bedded down" each night. In the winter "Tinker" lived in a small house near the Crandall ranch house, where no doubt his family lived.

GERMAN CAMP MEETINGS —

The camp meeting of the Evangelical Association was opened Thursday, July 10, 1897, in the grove of August Koenig, and closed Tuesday night, July 15. There were some twenty family tents pitched besides the tabernacle in which the meetings were held.

The following was the order of each day: 5:20 a.m.-signal of rising - 5:30 early morning prayer in the tabernacle, to which 30 minutes were devoted. 7:00 - Family worship in smaller tents and breakfast.

Nine a.m.-Consecration Service, 10:00-Sermon, 2:00 p.m.-Bible Study, 3:00-Sermon, 7:15-Prayer and Praise Service, 8:00-Sermon.

Presiding Elders, Rev. M. C. Platz, had general management of the camp meeting. Ministers present were: L. Reep, Wilton Junction, Iowa; C. Meeder, Emporia; M. J. Steinmetz, Humboldt; D. Swart, Newton; F. Harder, Yates Center, C. Harder and S. Reep, local preachers.

The camp meeting proved a success in every way. Over \$100 cash was raised. Some 15 new converts and some 20 testified to having experienced a deeper work of grace, while all the people of God were greatly revived.

* * * * *

Our German brethern closed their camp meeting at the beautiful grove on August Koenig's place Tuesday. The closing night was the scene of much religious work, many of the earnest workers becoming shouting happy. The Germans take hold of their church work with vim and vigor that good must inevitably follow.

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Woodson County Advocate - June 25, 1915 —

The Evangelical camp meeting has been discontinued on account of the condition of the grove, caused by the rains. The first quarterly meeting of the conference year will be held over Sunday, conducted by the presiding elder, G. J. Schiemacker, who will preach on Friday evening. On Saturday afternoon, Sunday morning and Sunday evening.

On Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon the elder will preach at the Turkey Creek Church of the Association.

* * * * *

For many years these German camp meetings were a part of the life of the Turkey Creek and the Zion Evangelical Churches, and the Cedar Creek Church after its organization.

Mostly about the first or second week in June all farm work was stopped by these people, and on a Monday morning, the family, tent, bedding, cooking utensils and food for several days were loaded into the wagon and went to the campgrounds. One of these campgrounds was located straight east of the Yates Center Cemetery, in the blackjack and pin oak grove on the Lauber farm.

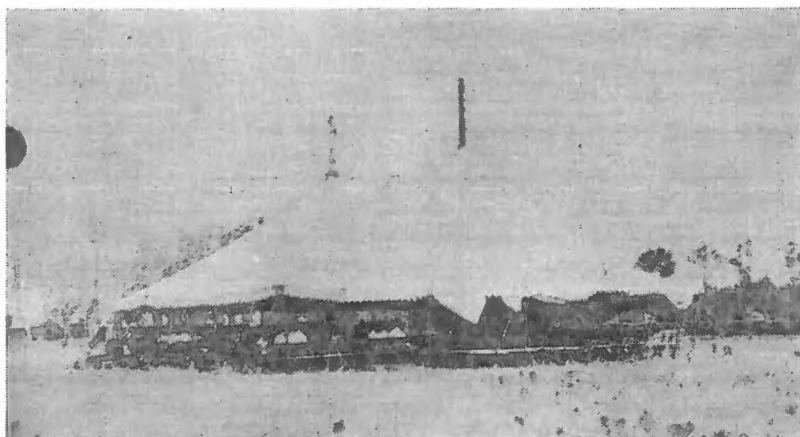
The wagons would be arriving at the campgrounds all through the day on Monday and all be ready for the services early Tuesday morning.

In most cases there were many chores to leave behind as most of these Germans handled quite alot of stock. And in most cases the hired men were to go to the meetings. Occasionally a local farmer would be hired to attend the stock of one or more families.

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METHODIST CAMP MEETING —

This tent was set up in a pasture eight miles north and four miles west from Yates Center. It was here in either 1913 or 1914.



Rev. John N. Ashley was a young man just out of college was a good minister and with lots of ambition held these camp or tent meetings each summer. He preached at the M. E. churches at Finney, Keck and Wesley Chapel.

On summer this tent was at the above location and the next summer was set up in the meadow, six miles north and two west from Yates Center.

PATRONS OF WOODSON COUNTY HISTORICAL QUARTERLY

Brown's Western Auto
 Milton & Virginia Schornick
 Kenneth & Barbara Stockebrand
 John V. Glades Agency
 Street Abstract Co., Inc.
 State Exchange Bank
 Self Service Grocery
 Krueger's Variety & Dry Goods
 HiWay Food Basket
 Piqua Farmers Co-op
 Gaulding Oil Co.
 Donald E. Ward
 Morton Equipment Co.
 Swope & Son Implement Co.
 Superior Bldg. & Supply, Inc.
 Campbell Plumbing & Electric
 Clyde Hill
 Cantrell Pontiac-Buick
 Pringle Ranch - J. W. &
 J. Richard Pringle
 Roger Bros. Garage
 Artex Manufacturing Co.
 J. C. Schnell
 Gambles Hardware & Home
 Furnishings
 Glen Shaw
 Herring Hardware & Supply
 Wilma Mark
 Peter D. Palmour, London England

Kimbell Ranch-Ed Kimbell
 Daylight Donut Shop
 Edwin H. Bideau Associated
 Agency, Chanute
 First National Bank, Toronto
 Blackjack Cattle Co., Inc.
 Yates Center Elevator
 Jasper's Shopping Spot
 Bill Taylor-Gen. Agent
 Woodson Co. Farm Bureau
 Atkin Clinic
 Daly Western Supply
 Jaynes Insurance Agency
 Jerry's Oil Co.
 Linde Barber Shop
 House of Fabrics
 Milton & Marcella Wrampe
 E. E. Light
 Atkin Rexall Pharmacy
 Campbell Funeral Home
 Mr. & Mrs. Glen Baker
 Piqua State Bank
 Thomas Wilson
 Ken Kimbell
 Al's Jewelry
 Edwin G. Reid, St. Louis, MO
 Rex Butler, Nashville, TN

